

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:
a reception unit for receiving frame images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;
an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays; and
a notification unit for causing acquiring and notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received by said reception unit; wherein said notification unit causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the frame images received from the communication terminal; the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and
wherein said notification unit ~~notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed~~ causes display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated; a second image information is displayed in a period, causes display of the symbol in a second

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condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed.

2. to 4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the symbol is changing image information is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

6. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim [[1]] 5, wherein said notification unit comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals the symbol in the first condition is a flashed icon.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving frame images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;

outputting the received frame images in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays; and

~~acquiring and notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received in said receiving step wherein said acquiring and notifying step causes~~ causing the display unit to display an image information of a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the frame images received from the communication terminal; the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and

wherein said causing the display unit to display a symbol ~~acquiring and notifying step notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed~~ causes display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image ~~images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period,~~ causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-

~~updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed.~~

9. to 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein ~~the symbol is changing the image information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of~~ an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

13. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 8, wherein the notification is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

14. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim ~~[[8]]~~ 12, wherein ~~the notification comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals~~ the symbol in the first condition is a flashed icon.

15. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:

a reception unit for receiving a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the frame images;

an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays;

an assigning unit for assigning an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

a control unit for controlling a state of outputting of the frame image display assigned by said assigning unit; and

a notification unit for causing acquiring and notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received by said reception unit, wherein said notification unit causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the frame images received from the communication terminal, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and

wherein said notification unit ~~notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed~~ causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image images is displayed on a predetermined region

~~and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period, causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed.~~

16. to 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~changing the image information displayed on the display unit is a change in a state of display of the symbol~~ is an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

20. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

21. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim ~~[[15]]~~ 19, wherein ~~said notification unit comprises one of flashing of an icon,~~

~~display of character information, and display of numerals~~ the symbol in the first condition is a flashed icon.

22. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the frame images;

outputting the received frame images in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays;

assigning an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

controlling a state of outputting of the assigned ~~frame image~~ display; and
~~acquiring and notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received in said receiving step wherein said acquiring and notifying step causes~~ causing the display unit to display ~~an image information of a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the frame images received from the communication terminal, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the~~ corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and

wherein said causing the display unit to display a symbol ~~acquiring and notifying step notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed~~ causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image ~~images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated,~~ a second image information is displayed in a period, causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image ~~images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when~~ the received frame images are not displayed.

23. to 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein ~~changing the image information is a change in a state of display of the~~ symbol is an icon indicating a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminals.

27. (Previously Presented) A communication method according to Claim 22, wherein said notification step is not performed when the frame rate is high, and is performed when the frame rate is reduced.

28. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to Claim ~~[[22]]~~ 26, wherein said notification step comprises one of flashing of an icon, display of character information, and display of numerals the symbol in the first condition is a flashed icon.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

[[a]] reception process code executable to receive ~~for receiving~~ frame images generated from a plurality of communication terminals;

[[an]] output process code executable to output for outputting the received frame images in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays; and

[[a]] notification process code executable to cause ~~for acquiring and~~ notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received by said reception process code wherein said notification process code causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the

~~frame images received from the communication terminal, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and~~

~~wherein said notification process code notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period, causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed.~~

30. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

[[a]] reception process code executable to receive for receiving a part or all of frame images generated from image generation units of a plurality of corresponding communication terminals by switching the frame images;

[[an]] output process code executable to output ~~for outputting~~ the received frame images in order to display the frame images on a display unit as multiple image displays;

[[an]] assigning process code executable to assign ~~for assigning~~ an arbitrary image display from among the multiple image displays;

[[a]] control process code executable to control ~~of controlling~~ a state for outputting of the assigned image display; and

[[a]] notification process code executable to cause ~~for acquiring and notifying of a state of frame rate of the frame images received by said reception process code wherein said notification process code causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the image displays, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the received frame image is~~ frames images are displayed on the corresponding image display, and

wherein said notification process code ~~notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed~~ causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a frame image currently displayed on the corresponding image display images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period,

causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the frame image currently displayed on the corresponding image display images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed on the corresponding image display.

31. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus comprising:
a reception unit for receiving frame images generated from a communication terminal;
an output unit for outputting the frame images received by said reception unit in order to display the frame images on a display unit; and
a notification unit for causing acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said reception unit, the state of reception comprising a state of frame rate of the frame images received by said reception unit while said reception unit is receiving the frame images, wherein said notification unit causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the image displays the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the corresponding frame image is received frame images are displayed, and

wherein said notification unit notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed causes the display of the symbol in first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a currently displayed frame image images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in the period, causes the display of the symbol in second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the currently displayed frame image images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated; and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed.

32. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein the symbol is changing the image information is a change in a state of display of an icon indicating the a corresponding one of the plurality of communication terminal terminals.

33. (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein said notification unit does not perform notification when the frame rate is high, and performs notification when the frame rate is reduced.

34. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to Claim [[31]] 32, wherein said notification unit comprises ~~one of flashing of an icon; display of character information, and display of numerals~~ the symbol in the first condition is a flashed icon.

35. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising the steps of:

receiving frame images generated from a communication terminal;

outputting the frame images received in said receiving step in order to display the frame images on a display unit; and

~~acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said receiving step, the state of reception comprising a state of frame rate of the frame images received in said receiving step while said receiving step is receiving the frame images;~~

~~wherein said acquiring and notifying step causes~~ causing the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the image displays, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the frame image is received ~~frame images are displayed on the corresponding image display, and;~~

~~wherein said~~ causing the display unit to display a symbol ~~acquiring and notifying step notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a~~

first image information is displayed causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a frame image currently displayed on the corresponding image display images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period, causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the frame image images is displayed currently displayed on the corresponding image display is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed on the corresponding image display.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a computer-executable program, said program comprising:

[[a]] reception code executable to receive for receiving frame images generated from a communication terminal;

[[an]] output code executable to output for outputting the frame images received by said reception code in order to display the frame images on a display unit; and

[[a]] notification code executable to cause for acquiring and notifying of a state of reception of said reception code, the state of reception comprising a state of frame rate of the frame images received in said reception code while said reception code is

receiving the frame images wherein said notification code causes the display unit to display a symbol indicating an update state of the received frame images, wherein the update state includes at least an updating state, a non-updating state, and a non-reception state, and wherein the symbol is an image information of the state of frame rate corresponding to each of the image displays, the image information being displayed on a predetermined area at a time when the received frame image is frame images are displayed on the corresponding image display, and

wherein said notification code notifies of the state of frame rate by changing the image information so that a first image information is displayed causes the display of the symbol in a first condition corresponding to the updating state when at least one of the received a frame image currently displayed on the corresponding image display images is displayed on a predetermined region and is updated by a next frame image on the predetermined region is updated, a second image information is displayed in a period, causes the display of the symbol in a second condition corresponding to the non-updating state when at least one of the received the frame image currently displayed on the corresponding image display images is displayed is not updated by a next frame image, and causes the display of no symbol corresponding to the non-reception state on the predetermined region and a next frame image on the predetermined region is not updated, and neither the first or the second image information are displayed when the received frame images are not displayed on the corresponding image display.

37. to 40. (Cancelled)

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